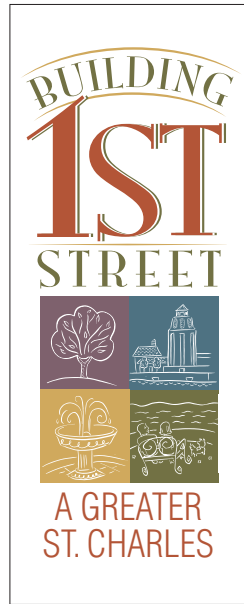




The Den . . . In Focus



First Street Project Update

www.stcharlesil.gov/departments/cdd/firststreet.html

The First Street Redevelopment Project is about to become more visible. The City recently completed the purchase of several key properties within the TIF district, including the former Torco Dodge dealership and a home located on the corner of 2nd and Walnut. The buildings on these pieces of land, along with the former Vi's Last Call and St. Charles Cleaners on

the corner of 1st and Illinois, are scheduled to be removed in mid-April.

The City Engineering Division has also been very actively working on the engineering design and plans for key infrastructure, including underground utilities, water, sewer, streets and sidewalks. Although this is not firm, they are working toward breaking pavement in mid-July to begin this infrastructure work. Please watch the City Grapevine updates on the web site and this newsletter supplement for additional notices and information as work on this project progresses.

The First Street Communications team continues to meet and plan for the upcoming activities. The banner above depicts the logo designed for this project. The theme, "Building 1st Street for A Greater St. Charles" expresses the intent of the project to benefit many aspects of the entire community . . . economic development, downtown ambiance, riverfront, families and more. They will announce a kickoff event sometime this summer. In the meantime, a project summary brochure was designed for distribution. The brochure is available on the project web site, at the City Hall reception desk and in the Economic Development Department. Speaking of the web site, the new First Street project web site is officially under construction. The current site is available at the new address www.1stStreetSTC.org. An official announcement will herald the launch of the new site prior to the kickoff event. The

new site will offer much of the same information, along with an e-news registry for the latest First Street information, links to newspaper articles on the project, news releases, TIF information and a webcam.

The City has been working with FEMA and consultants to resolve floodway and floodplain issues for the buildings and walkway along the riverfront. New drawings and elevations will be posted on the First Street web site as soon as they are available.

The Milestone Row project, just west of the Brownstone townhomes along south 1st St. between Indiana and Prairie Streets, and outside the First Street Redevelopment Project area, is progressing. The concrete foundations are being poured and cured now and should be mostly in place in about two weeks. They will continue to work with other contractors as utilities, such as plumbing, elevator shafts, etc., are installed. Work is expected to continue on this building throughout the summer and well into fall and winter. The building will have retail space on the first floor, with a walkway down the center. Residential condominiums will be located on the upper floors. Underground parking will be accessible from Indiana. Tenants for the retail space have not been confirmed, although the Harris Bank branch currently located between the Blue Goose and Manor Restaurant will relocate there.

Renovations on the building into which the Manor Restaurant and The Yard will move are also progressing. The relocation date has not been set, as there are at least a few more months worth of work yet to do before the space is ready. Final drawings and plans for the new building, to be built

in its current location on the corner of 1st and Main, are still being refined. These



<http://www.stcharlesil.gov/news/stcharlesnewsflashcsg.html>

drawings and elevations will also be posted on the web site when they are available.

As construction approaches, our challenge will be to keep the momentum, excitement and vision in sight. Infrastructure work will

continue throughout the summer and well into the fall. Building construction will occur in stages, with some buildings completed before others. Existing downtown and First Street businesses will especially need the support and encouragement of everyone in the

community. It will ultimately be the commitment of every resident, business and organization to work together with the City and developers to facilitate a smooth project and transition, and to create a greater St. Charles for future generations.

2005 Priorities Survey Results

The Priorities Survey is conducted annually to gather input from the community on City services residents feel are important for limited funding and staff. Some

results were posted in the December/January issue of this newsletter. Following are some additional results. The complete results are posted on the City's web site at

www.stcharlesil.gov/getinvolved. Please contact Megan Pierce, City Administrator's Office, (630) 377-4915 or by email at mpierce@stcharlesil.gov with questions.

Residents were asked to pick the top 3 goals of the City out of 8 choices. The responses were weighted according to how they were rated: 3 points for the most important goal, 2 points for the second, and so on. Listed below are the top 3 choices of the citizens from 2000 to 2005, along with a summary graph.

2005 Most Important Goals 1. Provide Quality and Responsive City Services 2. Ensure Public Safety 3. Improve Traffic Circulation	2004 Most Important Goals 1. Ensure Public Safety 2. Provide Quality and Responsive City Services 3. Improve Traffic Circulation
2003 Most Important Goals 1. Provide Quality and Responsive City Services 2. Ensure Public Safety 3. Improve Traffic Circulation	2002 Most Important Goals 1. Provide Quality and Responsive City Services 2. Ensure Public Safety 3. Improve Traffic Circulation
2001 Most Important Goals 1. Provide Quality and Responsive City Services 2. Ensure Public Safety 3. Improve Traffic Circulation	2000 Most Important Goals 1. Ensure Public Safety 2. Provide Quality and Responsive City Services 3. Improve Traffic Circulation

1996-2005 Most Important City Goal
(weighted average)

